

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A composition comprising a mouse HRt protein-human interacting partner protein complex wherein the human interacting partner protein comprises a molecule selected from the group consisting of Homo Sapiens Keratin 5; Homo Sapiens Ubiquitous Receptor; Homo Sapiens Protein Inhibitor of Activated STAT-1; Homo Sapiens Similar to Stromal Antigen 2; Homo Sapiens Nucleoporin 160Kda; Homo Sapiens Retinoic Acid Receptor Gamma 1; Homo Sapiens Thyroid Hormone Receptor Alpha; Homo Sapiens Annexin A1; Homo Sapiens HIC Protein Isoform p32 and Isoform 40; Homo Sapiens Insulin-like Growth Factor Binding Domain Protein 6; Homo Sapiens Inner Membrane Protein Mitochondrial; Homo Sapiens Endoplasmic Reticulum Thioredoxin Super Family Member ; Homo Sapiens Protein Inhibitor of Activated STAT-3; Homo Sapiens DEAD Box Polypeptide 3; Homo Sapiens Dpy-30-like Protein; Mus Musculus Vitamin D Receptor; and combinations thereof.
2. A composition comprising a mouse HRt protein-human interacting partner protein complex, wherein said human interacting partner is encoded by a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15; SEQ ID NO:16 and combinations thereof.
3. A method of assaying a test compound for agonist or antagonist activity for the composition of Claim 1, comprising:
  - a) measuring a level of interaction between mouse HRt protein and the human interacting partner protein in the absence of the test compound;
  - b) measuring a level of interaction between mouse HRt protein and the human interacting partner protein in the presence of the test compound;wherein when the level measured in step b) is greater than the level in step a), the test compound has agonist activity, and wherein when the level measured in step b) is less than the level in step a), the test compound has antagonist activity.
4. A method of assaying a test compound for agonist or antagonist activity for the composition of Claim 2, comprising:

a) measuring a level of interaction between mouse HRt protein and the human interacting partner protein in the absence of the test compound;

b) measuring a level of interaction between mouse HRt protein and the human interacting partner protein in the presence of the test compound;

wherein when the level measured in step b) is greater than the level in step a), the test compound has agonist activity, and wherein when the level measured in step b) is less than the level in step a), the test compound has antagonist activity.

5. A method of beautifying and/or improving mammalian skin in a subject in need thereof, comprising the step of applying a compound having antagonist activity for the composition of claim 1 to a portion of mammalian skin in need of treatment.

6. A method of beautifying and/or improving mammalian skin in a subject in need thereof, comprising the step of applying a compound having agonist activity for the composition of Claim 1 to a portion of mammalian skin in need of treatment.

7. A method of beautifying and/or improving mammalian skin in a subject in need thereof, comprising the step of applying a compound having antagonist activity for the composition of Claim 2 to a portion of mammalian skin in need of treatment.

8. A method of beautifying and/or improving mammalian skin in a subject in need thereof, comprising the step of applying a compound having agonist activity for the composition of Claim 2 to a portion of mammalian skin in need of treatment.